



H.RES. 1243 – RECOGNIZING THE IMMEASURABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FATHERS IN THE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN, SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD, AND ENCOURAGING GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF FATHERS IN THE LIVES OF THEIR CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY ON FATHER'S DAY

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1243 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative John Sullivan (R-OK) on June 5, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1243 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 9, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1243 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Commends the millions of fathers who serve as wonderful, caring parents for their children;
- Calls on fathers across the United States to use Father's Day to reconnect and rededicate themselves to their children's lives, to spend Father's Day with their children, and to express their love and support for their children;
- Urges men to understand the level of responsibility fathering a child requires, especially in the encouragement of the moral, academic, and spiritual development of children; and
- Encourages active involvement of fathers in the rearing and development of their children, including the devotion of time, energy, and resources.

BACKGROUND

According to a [report released by the U.S. Census Bureau](#), the concept for 'Father's Day' was conceived by Sonora Dodd from Spokane, Washington. Ms. Dodd was listening to a sermon about Mother's Day in 1909 and wanted a day to honor her father, William Smart. Later, the Mayor of Spokane proclaimed June 19, 1909 to be recognized as Father's Day. President Johnson issued a proclamation in 1966 designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. The day was made permanent in 1972 when President Nixon signed the day into law.

The Census Bureau estimates that there are 64.3 million fathers in the U.S. Of these, about 159,000 married dads are stay-at-home dads, caring for over 230,000 children while their wives work outside the home.

STAFF CONTACT

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